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CASE NUMBER: 17-1-04714-3 SEA

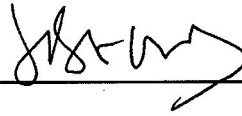
THE STATE OF WASHINGTON,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 v.) No. 17-1-04714-3 SEA
)
)
 JOHN RAY STEARNS,) INFORMATION
)
)
 Defendant.)

Daniel T. Satterberg, Prosecuting Attorney
CRIMINAL DIVISION
W554 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104-2385
(206) 296-9000 FAX (206) 296-0955

DANIEL T. SATTERBERG

Prosecuting Attorney

By:



Jeffrey B. Baird, WSBA #11731

Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

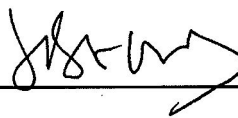
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2 CAUSE NO. 17-1-04714-3 SEA

3 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CASE SUMMARY AND REQUEST FOR BAIL AND/OR
4 CONDITIONS OF RELEASE

5 The State incorporates by reference the Certification for Determination of Probable
6 Cause prepared by Detective Rolf Coomber Norton of the Seattle Police Department for case
7 number 98-018570.

8 Pursuant to CrR 2.2(b), the State requests bail set in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. As the
9 Certification for Determination of Probable Cause convincingly establishes, the defendant poses
10 a great risk to public safety if not in custody. On December 22, 2000, at the sentencing in King
11 County in case 99-1-06248-1, Judge Ronald Kessler found that the defendant's actions in that
12 case – beating the victim severely, and then raping her – amounted to deliberate cruelty, and
13 imposed an exceptional sentence of 720 months. The defendant remains in custody with the
14 Department of Corrections on that charge.

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17 Signed and dated by me this 9th day of August, 2017.

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21 Jeffrey B. Baird, WSBA #11731
22 Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
23
24

CAUSE NO. _____



SEATTLE
POLICE
DEPARTMENT

**CERTIFICATION FOR DETERMINATION
OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

GENERAL OFFENSE #
98-018570
UNIT FILE NUMBER
H 98-16

That Rolf Norton is a Detective with the Seattle Police Department, and has reviewed the investigation conducted in Seattle Police Department Case Number 98-018570;

There is probable cause to believe that John Ray Stearns committed the crime(s) of Murder within the City of Seattle, County of King, State of Washington.

This belief is predicated on the following facts and circumstances:

The following incident occurred in the State of Washington, County of King, and City of Seattle.

On January 14, 1998 at approximately 1050 hours Seattle Parks employees James Holmen and Don Erickson found the body of a female lying on the ground on the west side of the bathroom at Lavizzo Park at 2100 S. Washington in Seattle's Central District.

The victim's shirt was pulled up exposing her bra. Her pants were pulled down to her thighs exposing her genitals.

The victim was identified as 33-year-old Crystal Williams. Williams had a history of prostitution and narcotics use.

Detectives interviewed several acquaintances who had been hanging out with her in the area around 20th Av. and Yesler Way on January 14th. Y. Hicks, L. Warner, Z. White, and T. Gober all reported seeing Williams walking toward the park bathroom from Yesler with a lone black male in the early morning hours of January 14th. None of them saw her return.

Homicide detectives processed the scene. Among other items, detectives recovered a used condom on the ground a short distance away from Williams. The condom was between her and the park sidewalk.

The King County Medical Examiner (KCME) autopsy determined that Williams was killed from blunt force trauma to her face and head. She sustained a fractured skull. She had bruising to both sides of her face. There were also indications of asphyxia. Her death was ruled a homicide.

Per standard KCME protocol, evidence was collected from Williams during the autopsy to include anal, oral, and vaginal swabs.

Detectives submitted the used condom and victim Williams' vaginal swabs to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Crime Laboratory for DNA analysis.

In June 2001 WSP testing recovered semen from the victim's vaginal swabs and from the condom left near her body. A male DNA profile was identified. There were initially no matches in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).



**CERTIFICATION FOR DETERMINATION
OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

INCIDENT NUMBER
98-018570
UNIT FILE NUMBER
H 98-16

In February 2004 CODIS matched the DNA profile from semen recovered from the victim's vaginal swabs and from semen in the used condom to suspect John R. Stearns (DOB: 10-11-62). Stearns had felony convictions for Unlawful Imprisonment, Robbery 1, Rape 2 - attempt, Assault 3, Burglary 2, Theft 1, Malicious Mischief 1, and Intimidating Witness - attempt.

The bulk of Stearns' criminal convictions involved violent sexual assaults on women that occurred in a very contained geographical area in the Central District.

In 1981 Stearns asked to enter a 20-year-old woman's house in the 900 block of 25th Av. S. because, he said, someone was following him. The woman recognized Stearns as one of her brother's friends and allowed him to enter. Suddenly, Stearns struck the victim in the head with a bottle, overpowered her, and raped her. She eventually convinced Stearns to leave by assuring him they would remain friends. Stearns took her television and left. Detectives later recovered the television from Stearns' residence. He was incarcerated for this offense from 1982 until 1987.

Stearns' convictions for Attempt Rape 2 and Robbery 1 stemmed from his attack on a female in January 1989 in the 800 block of 24th Av. S. in Seattle. This occurred while he was on parole. The location was one block away from where he raped his victim in 1981. In this 1989 incident the female victim stepped off a bus and began walking home. Stearns ran up behind her. Stearns struck her in the head, grabbed her hair, threw her to the ground, and ordered her to spread her legs. He choked her with one hand while attempting to penetrate her with the other. A passerby intervened and the victim ran to a nearby store and called the police. Officers arrested Stearns a short distance away in possession of items belonging to the victim.

In April 1999 a male broke into the residence of an 81-year-old female victim at 817 24th Av. S. The suspect raped the victim anally and vaginally before stealing money and leaving the residence. Officers found the victim's pajamas and bedding were soaked with her blood. The suspect entered by breaking a window on the NW corner of the residence. Blood was recovered from the window area and from a paper towel left inside the victim's house during the assault. A neighbor reported seeing Stearns climbing over the fence surrounding the victim's home. The victim told detectives that a montage that included a photo of Stearns did not include her assailant (although she knew Stearns from the neighborhood). Stearns' DNA was eventually matched to the DNA profile from the blood at the point of entry and on the paper towel roll. The location of this rape and home invasion robbery was essentially across the street from the location of Stearns' sexual assault in 1989.

Stearns' convictions for Unlawful Imprisonment, Burglary 2, Theft 1, Assault 3, and Malicious Mischief 1 stemmed from his July 1999 attack on a female clerk at a mini-mart at 722 23rd Av. S. in Seattle. Stearns attacked the victim with a box cutter. He slashed her face and beat her with his fists. Stearns stole cash from the till and then removed the victim's clothing and attempted to rape her. SPD officers responded to the incident and found Stearns with his pants down,

**CERTIFICATION FOR DETERMINATION
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INCIDENT NUMBER	98-018570
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straddling the bloody and unconscious victim in the back room of the store. Medics rushed to victim to Harborview for emergency surgery. Stearns told officers that he was innocent and named another person as the “real” assailant.

Stearns has been incarcerated since these 1999 convictions.

Crystal Williams’ murder and the four sexual assaults committed by Stearns and detailed above all occurred within a one-half mile radius of one another.

On March 24, 2005 SPD Homicide and Special Assault detectives interviewed Stearns at Stafford Creek Correctional Center where he was serving an approximate 40-year-sentence for his crimes. Stearns was mirandized and stated that he understood his rights. Stearns viewed photos of Williams. He denied knowing her. He denied having sex with her. He denied being involved in her homicide. Stearns denied ever having any sexual relations with prostitutes.

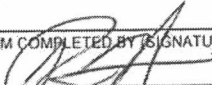
On February 3, 2017 an SPD Homicide detective spoke with Stearns at the Monroe Correctional Center again. After being mirandized Stearns stated that he had nothing further to share regarding Williams’ homicide. He also confirmed he did not want to change anything regarding his 2005 statement to detectives.

Under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, I certify that the foregoing is true and correct to best of my knowledge and belief. Signed and dated by me this 7 day of August, 2017, at Seattle, Washington.



SUPERFORM

CCN/JCN NUMBER	B/A NUMBER	PCN NUMBER
AGENCY: <input type="checkbox"/> UNINCORPORATED KING COUNTY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CITY OF Seattle <input type="checkbox"/> MISDEMEANOR DAJD <input type="checkbox"/> KCCF <input type="checkbox"/> FELONY <input type="checkbox"/> RJC		9 8 - 0 1 8 5 7 0 CASE NUMBER Court _____
		H 98-16 FILE NUMBER

S U P E R F O R M D A T A	DATE OF ARREST/TIME / /	BOOKING DATE/TIME / /	ARREST LOCATION		
	NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE/JR., SR., 1ST, 2ND) Stearns, John Ray		ALIAS, NICKNAMES Stearns, Johnnie Ray		
	IDENTITY IN DOUBT? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DOB 10/11/1962	SEX M	RACE B	HGT 509
			WGT 200	EYES Brn	HAIR Blk
	SCARS, MARKS, TATTOOS, DEFORMITIES			ARMED/DANGEROUS YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP
	OCCUPATION		EMPLOYER, SCHOOL (ADDRESS, SHOP/UNION NUMBER)		SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
	DRIVER'S LICENSE #		STATE	AFIS #	FBI # 139273AA6
	VEHICLE LICENSE #		STATE	YEAR	MAKE
	PERSON TO BE CONTACTED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY		RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS	CITY
O F F E N S E D A T A	1) OFFENSE <input type="checkbox"/> DV INVESTIGATION OF MURDER		RCW/ORD #	COURT/CAU #	CITATION #
	2) OFFENSE <input type="checkbox"/> DV		RCW/ORD #	COURT/CAU #	CITATION #
	3) OFFENSE <input type="checkbox"/> DV		RCW/ORD #	COURT/CAU #	CITATION #
	4) OFFENSE <input type="checkbox"/> DV		RCW/ORD #	COURT/CAU #	CITATION #
P R O P E R T Y	ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL CHARGES		CRIMINAL TRAFFIC CITATION ATTACHED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	ACCOMPLICES	
	LIST VALUABLE ITEMS OR PROPERTY LEFT FOR ARRESTEE AT JAIL				
	LIST VALUABLE ITEMS OR PROPERTY ENTERED INTO EVIDENCE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> IF YES, DESCRIBE (SIMPLE DESCRIPTION, IDENTIFYING MARKS, SERIAL #)				
	TOTAL CASH OF ARRESTEE		WAS CASH TAKEN INTO EVIDENCE? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	SIGNATURE OF JAIL STAFF RECEIVING ITEM/SERIAL #	
O F F	ARRESTING OFFICER/SERIAL #		TRANSPORTING OFFICER/SERIAL #		SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE/SERIAL #
	SUPERFORM COMPLETED BY SIGNATURE/SERIAL #  6024		CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (NAME/SERIAL#/PHONE) Det. R. Norton #6024 206-684-5555		
ADULT MISDEMEANOR BOOKINGS: Complete to this line. FELONY & ALL JUVENILE BOOKINGS: Complete both sides COMPLETE OBJECTION TO RELEASE ON REVERSE SIDE FOR ALL BOOKINGS.					
C O U R T F I L E	SUPERIOR COURT <input type="checkbox"/> IN CUSTODY		COURT CAUSE (STAMP OR WRITE)		
	FILING INFO <input type="checkbox"/> AT LARGE				
W A R R A N T I N F O / E X T R A D I T E	COURT/DIST	DIST CT	BOND REQUESTED:	SUP. CT. DATE	WARRANT NUMBER
	CT NO	BOND \$	\$		
	WARRANT DATE		OFF CODE	OFFENSE	AMOUNT OF BAIL
					\$
	POLICE AGENCY ISSUING		COURT	WARRANT RELEASED TO:	SERIAL
	PERSON APPROVING EXTRADITION		SEAKING-LOCAL ONLY WACIC-STATE WIDE	NCIC-WILL EXTRADITE FROM ID & OR ONLY	NCIC-WILL EXTRADITE FROM OR, ID, MT, WY, CA, NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM, HI, AK
				ALL 50 STATES	
CCN#		DOE	DOC		
WAC#		TOE	TOD		
NIC#		OP#	OP#		